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AD NUMBER AD404553 **NEW LIMITATION CHANGE** TO Approved for public release, distribution unlimited **FROM** Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies and their contractors; Foreign Government Information; MAR 1963. Other requests shall be referred to Army Biological Laboratory, Fort Detrick, MD 21701. **AUTHORITY** smufd, d/a ltr, 4 feb 1972

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THE ROLE OF WATER
IN THE ETIOLOGY OF ANIMAL BOTULISM

METHOD OF DETECTION
OF BOTULISMUS TOXIN C IN WATER

TRANSLATION NO.

751

MARCH 1963

404 553

U.S. ARMY BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES FORT DETRICK, FREDERICK, MARYLAND

GCBL: FD2-3742 (T-51-1) JPRS: R-3038-D

18 March 1963

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Translated for:

U.S. CHEMICAL CORPS BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES Ft. Detrick, Md.

By:

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OFFICE OF TECHNICAL SERVICES

JOINT PUBLICATIONS RESEARCH SERVICE
BUILDING T-30
Ohio Dr. and Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

THE ROLE OF WATER IN THE ETIOLOGY OF ANIMAL BOTULISM METHOD OF DETECTION OF BOTULISMUS TOXIN C IN WATER

by L. Pigoury, C. Michel, and C. Chabassol

Published in Revue du Corps de Santé des Armées (Armed Forces Medical Review) Vol. 3, Suppl 3, 1962, p. 649.

Summery

Botulism contracted through water is of considerable interest in veterinary medicine. The animals become contaminated by the ingestion of spores or of the toxin which is usually found in water er enters it occasionally.

By experimenting with the toxin C, we have developed a method of detecting the botulismus toxin in water which is based on economization of lyophilisation.

We lyophilise 50 ml of water filtered with a "Chardin" filter and add 50% dextran or 5% heated horse serum. To this are added 2 ml of distilled water containing 100 units of penicillin and 5 mg of streptomycin. This is injected into the peritoneum of a mouse. The method is suitable for use with multiples of 50 ml, depending on the number of mice it is desired to inoculate (toxotypy).

Taking into account a lowering of titration by 50% after lyephilization, the minimum quantity of detectable toxin C is about 1/25 DMm of mouse per ml of water or a dose about 10 times less than when inoculating the same volume of non-concentrated water.

It would see a possible to extend the method to the concentration of other typ's of toxins and to the detection of small quantities of such toxins in organ specimens or in samples of feod.

(Research Institute of the Biological and Veterinary Services of the Armed Forces, Alfort.)